

State of North Carolina



MICHAEL F. EASLEY
GOVERNOR

SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

2007

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, 1 in 5 North Carolina women have been sexually assaulted at some point in their lives according to the NC Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, 1999; and

WHEREAS, in North Carolina rape cost victims over \$1 billion in 2004-05 fiscal year considering factors such as medical cost, lost earnings, pain, suffering and lost quality of life according to the U.S. Department of Justice, 1996, recalculated with 2004 data; and

WHEREAS, sexual abuse appears to contribute to teen pregnancy indirectly, by lowering the age of first intercourse and by increasing sexual risk-taking among young people according to the John Hopkins School of Public Health Population Information Program, 2000; and

WHEREAS, 97% of parents surveyed by the Kaiser Family Foundation wanted sex education to include what their teen should do if raped according to the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation September 2000; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina rape crisis centers served over 7,300 individuals, including 2,700 children under the age of 18 according to the NC Council for Women, 2006; and

WHEREAS, over 18,000 hotline calls were received by NC rape crisis centers in 2005 according to the NC Council for Women, 2006; and

WHEREAS, there are only 9,700 sex offenders and sexual predators registered as living in North Carolina according to the State Bureau of Investigation, 2006;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MICHAEL F. EASLEY, Governor of the State of North Carolina do hereby proclaim April 2007, as "**SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH**" in North Carolina. I encourage all citizens to speak out against sexual assault and support their local communities' efforts to provide services to victims of this heinous crime.



Michael F. Easley
MICHAEL F. EASLEY

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this tenth day of April in the year of our Lord two thousand and seven, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-first.